

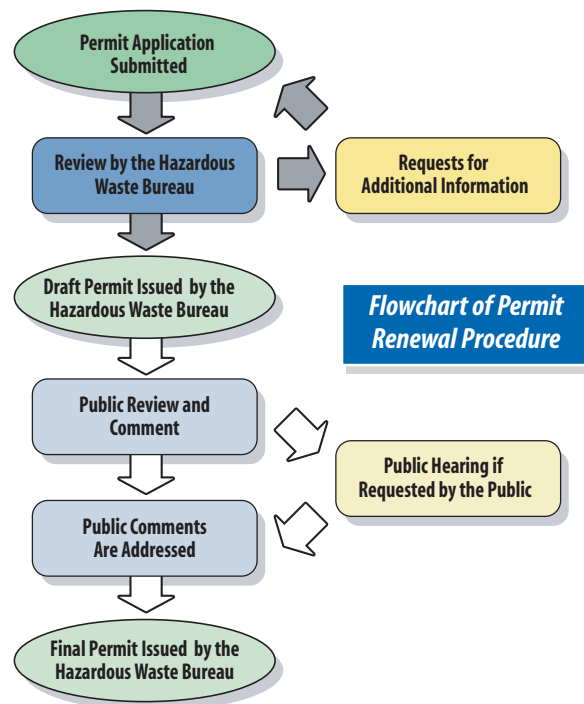
# Los Alamos National Laboratory's Permit Renewal for Storage & Treatment of Hazardous Waste Under Review

*This is the first installment of a three part series about the Los Alamos National Laboratory's (LANL) hazardous waste facility permit renewal and the opportunity for public involvement in this process. The next installment will appear a week from today.*

## THE RENEWAL PROCESS

Hazardous waste has the potential to pose a threat to human health and the environment and is subject to permitting by the Hazardous Waste Bureau of the New Mexico Environment Department.

Los Alamos National Laboratory's facility permit ensures that its waste management activities are protective of human health and the environment. Hazardous waste permits can cover waste treatment, storage or disposal activities. The process for obtaining a permit is described in the flowchart below.



## A STAGED APPROACH TO THE LANL PERMIT RENEWAL PROCESS

The Hazardous Waste Bureau has recently completed a review of the first part of Los Alamos National Laboratory's permit renewal. This included an administrative and technical assessment.

The Hazardous Waste Bureau is now preparing the draft permit and will seek public review and feedback before issuing the final permit. Future modifications to the permit will cover additional storage and treatment units at other Technical Areas.

Clean-up of historical sites will be addressed separately by the Hazardous Waste Bureau. Air quality, water quality and management of other types of waste at Los Alamos National Laboratory are regulated by other state or federal programs or permits.

**The renewed permit will regulate the treatment and storage (not disposal) of hazardous waste and the hazardous component of mixed waste (hazardous waste and radioactive waste) at a number of locations shown on the map. It will not address the management of radioactive waste or the radioactive component of mixed waste, which are regulated by other federal programs.**

## WHAT DOES THE LANL PERMIT RENEWAL INCLUDE?

Los Alamos National Laboratory needs a permit renewal because a permit is required whenever hazardous waste is treated or is stored on site for greater than ninety days. Most wastes are stored at Los Alamos National Laboratory for less than one year. In some cases waste is treated to make it safer for disposal. Many of the wastes are sent off site for treatment and all hazardous wastes are sent off site for ultimate disposal.

The permit renewal application describes procedures for waste storage and treatment at specific facilities within Technical Areas (TAs) shown on the map.

## HAVE YOUR SAY!

Once the Hazardous Waste Bureau releases the draft permit, the public will have an opportunity to review and comment on its content. The Hazardous Waste Bureau will answer the public comments based on their technical evaluation.

The public and other interested parties can contribute valuable information and ideas to improve the quality of draft permits. Los Alamos National Laboratory would like you to be part of this review process.

## FIND OUT THE FULL STORY

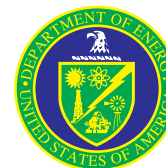
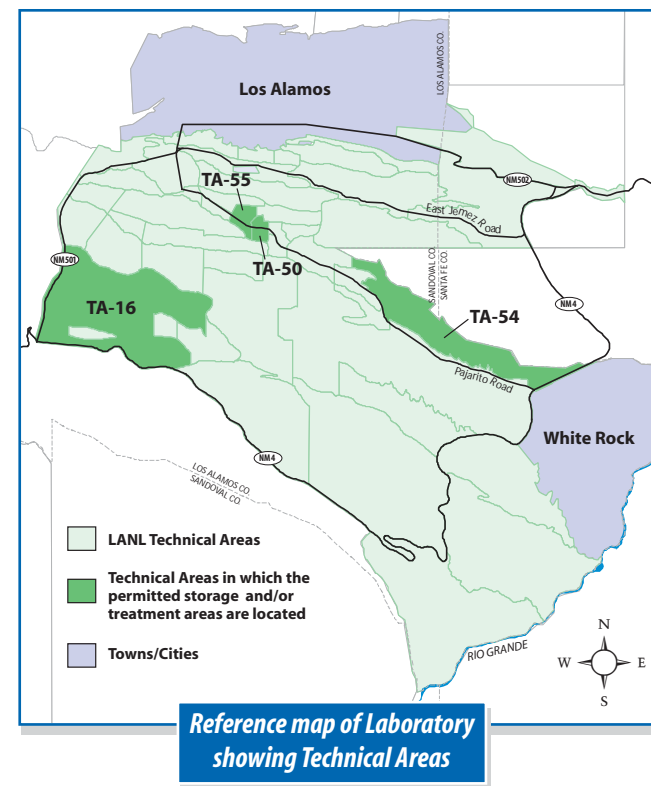
Next week we will explain how the permit renewal application addresses *waste storage* at sites within Technical Areas 50, 54, and 55.

The following week we will explain how the permit renewal application addresses *treatment* at sites within Technical Areas 55 and 16.

## NEED TO KNOW MORE?

If you would like more information, to obtain copies of this series, or to be added to a mailing list to receive updated information, please contact *Carmen Rodriguez* at Los Alamos National Laboratory by phone on **505-665-6770**, or on **1-888-841-8256**, or via email at **carmenr@lanl.gov**. We can also arrange presentations on this subject for organizations and groups of community members.

*Thank you for taking the time to read this series.*



Los Alamos National Laboratory, an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer, is operated by the University of California for the US Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration under contract W-7405-ENG-36